

HENRY S. ALEXANDER AND SARAH MILES ALEXANDER



Henry S. Alexander was the son of Alvah and Phoebe Houston. He was born July 12, 1823, in Washington County, Vermont.

H. S. Alexander was a convert to the Mormon Church and moved to Nauvoo and remained there until the exodus in 1846. He held the rank of corporal in the Nauvoo Legion.

From Nauvoo they moved to Council Bluffs. In 1848 H. S. Alexander came to

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HOW

Utah with the freight train of Livingston and Kimball, arriving in Salt Lake in September, 1848. He lived there a year and he was sent to South Mill Creek by Brigham Young to build a sawmill and he sawed the first shingles to be made in Utah.

Later he was called on a colonization mission to Carson Valley, Nevada, in the early part of 1856. During the journey across the desert the party suffered a great deal from thirst. They were three days without water. They were about exhausted from this thirst and fatigue. Enoch Reese, who was in charge of the party, turned it over to Alexander. They met an Indian who made them understand where they could find water.

H. S. Alexander went to Lehi in 1857 and from there back to Mill Creek and again took charge of the sawmill. He later went to Wanship and built another sawmill on Silver Creek. He operated that until 1869. At this mill he sawed the timber for the railroad tunnel in Echo Canyon.

In 1869 the Alexander family moved to Midway. While they lived here three children were born.

Later they moved to Heber, and from 1870 to 1901 he was second counselor to President Abraham Hatch. He was a patriarch of the Church at the time of his death which was March 6, 1903.

H. S. Alexander married Sarah Miles July 23, 1850. To this union there were born ten children:

- Henry Miles Alexander
- Sarah Heneretta
- Lelia Naomi
- William M.
- Lilly May
- Clara Prudence
- Kate Josephine
- James Monroe
- Orpha Luwella
- George Snyder
- Charles (by another marriage)

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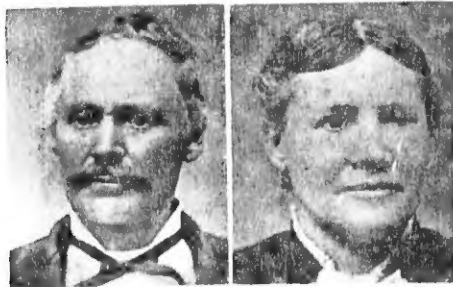
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every state in the U. S. and 28 foreign countries had visited the monument during 1956.—*Ann C. Hansen*

TOWNSEND'S PARK

J. L. Townsend, the noted writer of some of the most loved Latter-day Saint songs, was a great lover of nature. One summer he went prospecting in the mountains that tower to the east and south of Payson and while in this vicinity he found a tract of land that appealed to him. Here snuggled in the mountains the sun reddened a snow field above the coveted site and blazed in wondrous glory over the mountain peaks. Here was the place for which he had searched even from his pioneer days.

The tract of land lay in the National Forest preserve, so he immediately applied for a homestead. He received his permit to occupy the desired land. On his sixty-first birthday, August 9, 1910 in company with two sons, Raynham Lynn, and Joseph C., and a daughter, Amy, he drove the rough canyon road and took possession of the 160 acre homestead. It lay west of the creek and it took several days to cut a trail to the place selected for the building site.

His wife, Alta Hancock, loved flowers and together they planted a beautiful flower garden within this rustic setting. A truck garden supplied almost every variety of garden vegetables while in the upper field potatoes and alfalfa were grown. The title for the homestead was received in 1917.

Around the house and nearby grew many maple trees. In the early spring as the sap rose from the roots to the branches, the boys bored holes in the trunks of the trees about a foot above the ground and inserted spouts to convey the juice into vessels. The sap was then boiled down into syrup of the right consistency. These trees provided a sufficient supply for themselves, for friends, and even enough to sell to stores.

The homestead was about six miles from the heart of Payson, yet this family dwelt there part of each winter driving back and forth with horse and buggy. Because of the beauty of the place the family decided to open the homestead to the public. By this time a rustic bridge spanned the creek. It was named Townsend's Park and many families built summer homes on the south and west of the first dwelling. As time went on more cabins were built for rental purposes although many people came and pitched their tents. Later a dance pavillion and a small store were opened.

Some of Mr. Townsend's children moved to other states, so Townsend Park was sold and it was given a new name "Maple Dell." But with the improvement in cars and roads, the trend for entertainment took people to distant places, and soon Maple Dell existed no more. The Park is now owned by the Boy Scouts of America and it is not open to the public.—*Echo Haynes Durrant*

DANIELS CANYON—WASATCH COUNTY

It was not long after the first settlers of 1859 started to develop the land near the creeks coming into Provo Valley from nearby canyons, that herdsmen sought for close-by range for their livestock. Others explored the canyons for timber stands with which to build homes in Provo Valley and Utah Valley; so, just as the Provo Canyon road was built, *Daniels Canyon* was opened for this same purpose.

A man whose surname was Daniels lived close to the creek and trapped along it to the head of the canyon and it was from him that the canyon derived its name. Through the canyon, which was very narrow, with high, rugged sides, ran a stream of crystal clear water in the spring and early summer, which dwindled away to a small brook in the fall. The canyon sides were covered with grass, shrubs, mahogany, scrub oak and maple, also service berries, elderberries and choke cherries, and on toward the 8,000 feet summit, quaking aspens, and different species of pine grew in abundance.

At intervals, starting from the mouth of the canyon, other canyons break away east and west from Daniels Canyon. These provided fine summer pasture for cattle and sheep herds. As one starts into the canyon, Noakes and Bromley Hollow comes in from the west onto the bench-ground west of the creek, which was tilled in pioneer days.

As you go into the canyon proper *Boomer Canyon* comes in from the west. Boomer Bench, a high flat country breaks off into the canyon here. The *Dry Fork* comes in from the east; Parker Hollow comes in from the west. *Clegg Canyon*, named for a Mr. Clegg who had a sawmill there, comes in from the east. Next, Cummings Hollow, from the west, named for a family who operated a sawmill in that vicinity. Station Hollow comes in from the west, so named because of a station located there where riders who carried mail to Vernal could rest and change horses.

Center Canyon comes in from the east and was the location of another sawmill. Between this canyon and Dead Horse Flat, Cory Hanks, who was so cruelly maimed in a giant-cap explosion, had a little store and there he lived with his mother. Next *Turner Canyon* comes in from the west where Turners owned a sawmill. Then Rowe Hollow, which supposedly got its name because Indians and white men had a skirmish there. *Three Forks*, one canyon from the east, two from the west comes in next. Here John Turner had another sawmill; then comes *McQuire Canyon* from the east where Patrick McQuire built a sawmill.

Near the head of the canyon are small hollows—Shingle Hollow where the Alexanders ran a sawmill and Noakes made shingles. Forman Hollow where the Formans had a sawmill and Charles E. Thacker a shingle mill at the forks of the hollow. Small streams

Henry Samuel

Alexanders' Sawmill

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coursed down all of these hollows and canyons, emptying into Daniels Creek.